

I claim:

1. A method for producing a pleated and tabbed fabric comprising the steps of

pleating a sheet of material to form a stack of pleated material having pairs of opposed pleat faces;

applying at least one bond line between each pair of opposed pleat faces so that the applied bond lines are in one of two bond line planes which are normal to the pleat faces;

stacking the opposed pleat faces on top of one another to bond the pleat faces together thereby forming a stack of cellular material having at least two sets of bond lines each set aligned in a bond plane transverse to the pleat lines; and

cutting the stack along a cutting plane through the stack, the cutting plane being parallel to the bond planes, so that one of one plane of bond lines and a portion of one plane of bond lines is on either side of the cutting plane to form two panels of pleated and tabbed fabric.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the panels have a joint tab extending between each pair of pleats which tab is at least 1/16" in length.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein all joint tabs are identical in size.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the pleated panels are of a material suitable for use as a window covering.

5. The method of claim 1 also comprising the step of applying a third plane of bond lines between selected opposed pleat faces so that after cutting the stack a panel of cellular material is formed.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the panel of cellular material contains cells which are not symmetrical.

7. The method of claim 5 also comprising the step of applying a fourth plane of bond lines between selected opposed pleat faces so that after cutting the stack two panels of cellular material are formed.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the bond lines are formed by one of an adhesive, a hot melt adhesive and an ultrasonic bond.

9. A pleated and tabbed material made by the steps of:
pleating a sheet of material to form a stack of pleated material having pairs of opposed pleat faces;

applying at least one bond line between each pair of opposed pleat faces so that the applied bond lines are in one of two bond planes which are normal to the pleat faces;

stacking the opposed pleat faces on top of one another to bond the pleat faces together thereby forming a stack of cellular material having at least two sets of bond lines each set aligned in a bond plane transverse to the pleat lines; and

cutting the stack along a cutting plane through the stack, the cutting plane being parallel to the bond planes, so that one of one plane of bond lines and a portion of one plane of bond lines is on either side of the cutting plane to form two panels of pleated and tabbed fabric.

10. A honeycomb material of the type comprising a series of cells, a portion of at least some cells facing a front of the honeycomb material and having an exposed pleat and a portion of at least some cells facing a rear of the honeycomb material and having an exposed tab made by the steps of

pleating a sheet of material to form a stack of pleated material having pairs of opposed pleat faces;

applying at least one bond line between each pair of opposed pleat faces so that the applied bond lines are in one of at least three bond planes which are normal to the pleat faces;

stacking the opposed pleat faces on top of one another to bond the pleat faces together thereby forming a stack of cellular material having at least two sets of bond lines each set aligned in a bond plane transverse to the pleat lines; and

cutting the stack along a cutting plane through the stack, the cutting plane being parallel to the bond planes so

that one of one plane of bond lines and a portion of one plane of bond lines is on either side of the cutting plane to form at least one panel of cellular tabbed material.

00703372-103100